

Application Serial No.: 10/665,961

Attorney Docket No.: UTL 00173

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A system to reduce a data error rate associated with a signal received by a wireless communication device comprising:
 - a first antenna configured to receive a signal;
 - a second antenna configured to receive the signal, the second antenna configured at least partially orthogonal to the first antenna;
 - a processor configured to determine an error rate associated with the signal and generate one or more control signals when the error rate exceeds a threshold for a set period of time; and
 - a single switching element, responsive to the one or more control signals, configured to selectively provide either the signal received via the first antenna or the signal received via the second antenna to the processor.
2. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein the switching element comprises a voltage controlled switch.
3. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein the system further ~~switching element~~ comprises a first amplifier and a second amplifier, and wherein ~~operation of the first amplifier and the second amplifier is controlled by the one or more control signals~~ the processor is further configured to:
control the first and second amplifiers such that the signal from both antennas is initially provided to the processor;

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lower the gain on the first amplifier until no signal is received from the first antenna; and

simultaneously raise the gain on the second amplifier as the gain on the first amplifier is being reduced and as the switching element is switching from the first antenna to the second.

4. (Original) The system of Claim 1, further including a first amplifier located between the first antenna and the switching element and a second amplifier located between the second antenna and the switching element.
5. Cancelled
6. (Previously Presented) A method of switching between a signal received over a first antenna or a second antenna by switching between the first antenna and the second antenna comprising:
 - receiving a signal with a first antenna;
 - determining an error rate of the signal;
 - comparing the error rate of the signal to a threshold;
 - determining a time duration that the error rate exceeds the threshold;
 - generating a control signal when the error rate exceeds the threshold for a set period of time, wherein the control signal determines whether the signal provided to a receiver is received over the first antenna or the second antenna;
 - providing the signal received over the first antenna or the second antenna to the receiver based on the control signal; and

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providing the control signal to one or more amplifiers, wherein the control signal controls a level of amplification of the signal received over the first antenna and the second antenna.

7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein comparing the error rate of the signal to a threshold comprises comparing an average error rate of the signal over a period of time to a threshold.
8. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the error rate comprises an error rate selected from the group consisting of bit error rate, symbol error rate, and signal to noise ratio.
9. Cancelled
10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, further comprising:
slowly decreasing the amplification of a first amplifier coupled to the first antenna; while simultaneously,
slowly increasing the amplification of a second amplifier coupled to the second antenna.
11. (Original) The method of Claim 10, wherein the steps of decreasing and increasing are performed over a period of time greater than or equal to two milliseconds.
12. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein the method occurs within a wireless communication device.
13. (Previously Presented) A method of receiving a signal comprising:
receiving a signal with a first antenna;
receiving the signal with a second antenna, responsive to one or more control signals from a processor;

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amplifying either the signal received from the first antenna or the signal received from the second antenna to create an amplified signal;
directing the amplified signal to a processor;
analyzing the amplified signal with the processor to determine an error rate associated with the amplified signal;
comparing the error rate to a threshold value;
determining a time duration that the error rate exceeds the threshold value; and
generating one or more control signals to control the amplifying if the comparing reveals that the error rate is greater than the threshold value for a set period of time.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein comparing the error rate of the amplified signal to a threshold value comprises comparing an average error rate of the amplified signal to a threshold value.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein the threshold value comprises a maximum error rate value, such that error rates greater than the threshold value for a set period of time result in the processor generating a control signal to amplify the signal received from an alternate antenna.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, further comprising providing the control signal to a switch, wherein the switch is configured to direct either the signal from the first antenna or the second antenna to the processor.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein the first antenna is at least partially orthogonal to the second antenna.

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18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for switching between a first input and a second input within a wireless communication device configured to received a signal comprising:

a first conductive path having a first amplifier and first output;
a second conductive path having a second amplifier and second output, wherein the first output and the second output are connected to a node; and
a processor configured to receive a signal from the node and present control signals to the first amplifier and the second amplifier, wherein said control signals selectively and slowly enables or disables the first amplifier and the second amplifier.

19. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the node comprises a resistive network.

20. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the node comprises a switch.

21. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the first conductive path connects to a first antenna and the second conductive path connects to the second antenna and the first antenna is at least partially orthogonal to the second antenna.

22. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the first amplifier and the second amplifier amplify the signal prior to the signal arriving at the node.

23. (Previously Presented) A system for improving reception performance of a wireless communication device comprising:

means for receiving a first signal;
means for receiving a second signal, wherein the means for receiving the first signal and the means for receiving the second signal are at least partially orthogonal;

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means for amplifying the first signal;

means for amplifying the second signal;

means for processing configured to analyze the first signal and the second signal and, responsive to the analyzing, generate a control signal when an error rate associated with the first signal or the second signal exceeds a threshold value for a set period of time; and

means for providing, responsive to the control signal, either of the first signal or the second signal to the means for processing.

24. (Original) The system of Claim 23, wherein the means for processing further comprises means for comparing an error rate associated with the first signal or the second signal to a threshold value.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 24, wherein error rates above the threshold value for a set period of time cause the means for processing to generate a control signal.